

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-7, 11-13, 17, 18 and 20-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5-7, 11-13, 17 and 18 are amended. Claims 2-4, 8-10, 14-16, 19 and 23-26 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Patel and Examiner Wu at the interview held June 26, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on May 12, 2004. The Examiner acknowledged consideration of all references except references 11-13. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge and initial references 11-13. For the convenience of considering the references, a copy of the PTO-1449 filed on May 12, 2004 and copies of references 11-13 are enclosed herewith.

The Office Action objects to claims 14-17 asserting that the apparatus claims recite method steps. To obviate this objection, claim 13, which is amended with the subject matter of claims 14-16, is amended to recite apparatus features instead of method steps. Claim 17 is similarly amended. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 14-17 be withdrawn.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 4, 10, 16 and 17 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicants respectfully assert that this application is in condition for allowance because independent claims 1, 7, and 13 are amended with the allowable subject matter of

claims 4, 10 and 16 respectively. Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 18 and 20-22 depend from independent claims 1, 7 and 13 respectively, and therefore, are patentable for the same reasons, as well as for the additional features recited therein. The rejections of the remaining claims are moot because they are canceled by this Amendment. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:EXC/lah

Attachments:

Copy of PTO Form 1449 (May 12, 2004)
EP 0 712 094 (5/15/1996)
EP 1 006 716 (6/7/2000)
R. De Queiroz, "Compression of Compound Documents"

Date: August 2, 2007

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